IN THE CLAIMS

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The status of each claim is set forth in parentheses. This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A network usage analyzer, comprising:

a network query client residing in a first network; and

a network query server residing in a second network protected by a firewall, wherein said network query client is configured to send authenticating information to the network query server, to send a query to the network query server related to how resources in the second network are used, wherein the network query server is configured to send authentication approval information to the network query client, to collect data related to how resources in the second network are used <u>by requesting data related to how the resources in the second network are used from a network mediation system and receiving the requested data from the network mediation system</u>, and to send collected data to the network query client and wherein at least one query is formatted to enable transmission using Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) as the underlying transport mechanism.

Claim 2. (Original) The network usage analyzer, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the network query client and network query server are operable to communicate using a common protocol.

Claim 3. (Original) The network usage analyzer, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the

network query client and network query server are operable to communicate using Simple

Object Access Protocol.

Claims 4-5. (Canceled).

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing information of resource

usage in a first network, comprising:

establishing a communication channel between a network query client residing in a

second network and a network query server residing in the first network protected by a

firewall;

sending, by the network query client, authenticating information to the network query

server;

sending, by the network query server, authentication approval information to the

network query client;

sending, by the network query client, at least one network usage query <u>related to how</u>

<u>resources in the first network are used</u>;

receiving, by the network query server, <u>the</u> at least one network usage query from the

network query client, <u>wherein</u> the at least one <u>network usage</u> query <u>is</u> formatted to enable

transmission using Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) as the underlying transport

mechanism;

collecting, by the network query server, information ~~requested by~~ <u>in response to</u> the

network usage query <u>by requesting data related to how the resources in the first network are</u>

<u>used from a network mediation system and receiving the requested data from the network</u>

mediation system; and

   sending, by the network query server, the collected information to the network query client.

   Claim 7. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 6, wherein establishing a communication channel comprises establishing a communication channel without reconfiguring the firewall.

   Claim 8. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 6, wherein establishing a communication channel comprises establishing a communication channel using Simple Object Access Protocol.

   Claim 9. (Canceled).

   Claim 10. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

   periodically receiving, by the network query server, authenticating information from the network query client; and

   sending, by the network query server, authentication approval to the network query client in response to the periodically received authenticating information.

   Claim 11. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 6, further comprising receiving, by the network query server, network configuration information.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing information of resource usage in a first network, comprising:

establishing a communication channel between a network query client residing in a second network and a network query server residing in the first network protected by a firewall;

sending, by the network query client, authenticating information to the network query server;

sending, by the network query server, authentication approval information to the network query client;

sending, by the network query client, at least one network ~~network configuration~~ usage query related to how resources in the first network are used to the network query server, wherein the at least one network usage query is formatted to enable transmission using Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) as the underlying transport mechanism;

collecting, by the network query server, network configuration information in response to ~~requested by~~ the network usage query by requesting data related to how the resources in the first network are used from a network mediation system and receiving the requested data from the network mediation system;

~~receiving, by the network query client, information related to the network configuration query collected by the network query server; and~~

sending, by the network query server, the collected network configuration information to the network query client; and

receiving, by the network query client, information related to the network configuration query collected by the network query server.

Claim 13. (Original) The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein establishing a

communication channel comprises establishing a communication channel using Simple

Object Access Protocol.

Claims 14-15. (Canceled).

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The network usage analyzer, as set forth in claim

1, wherein the network query client transforms the usage data into business information.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The network usage analyzer, as set forth in claim

1, wherein the usage data comprises a metric measuring network usage levels based on at

least one of a geographical region, a time of day, a particular user, and a type of service plan.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in claim 6, further

comprising, sending, by the network query server, the collected information to the network

query client in order to transform the collected information into business information.

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in claim 12, further

comprising transforming the collected information into business information.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The method, as set forth in claim 12, further

comprising sending, by the network query client, at least one network usage query to the

network query ~~service~~ <u>server</u>, the at least one network usage query requesting a metric

measuring network usage levels based on at least one of a geographical region, a time of day,

a particular user, and a type of service plan.